

L. Osterman, USMC, Edith Padilla-Serrano, John A. Peca, Helen K. Persson, Alice Petrossian and H.E. Dr. Vanda Pignato.

First Deputy Commissioner Rafael Pineiro, NYPD, Pasquale Pistorio, CAPT Wayne Porter, USN, Dominic L. Pugliani, Thomas C. Quick, Edward J. Rappa, Hon. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Ghassan M. Saab, Peter Kaivon Saleh, DrPH, Theresa Patnode Santmann, Wido L. Schaefer, Dr. Tamer Seckin, Dr. Hasu P. Shah, Peter Stephen Shelley, MME, Brooke Shields, Joan Ellyn Silber, PhD, Dr. Rajendra Singh, Ronald E. Spears and Joyce Philibosian Stein.

John P. Thomas, MD, FACS, Dr. Ronan Tynan, Frankie Valli, Mohammad Reza Vaziri, Helen verDuin Palit, DHL, CAPT Joe Vojvodich, USCG, Paul E. Wakim, DO, Jose M. Wiley, MD, FACC, FACP, FSCAI, Maj. Gen. James L. Williams, USMC (Ret.), Dr. Carolyn Y. Woo and Tommy C. Xie.

SUPPORT FOR FIRE AND SAFER GRANTS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the amendment offered by Mr. RUNYAN and Mr. KISSELL and others, which seeks to ensure that our Nation's fire stations are adequately staffed and that firefighters have the tools they need to protect our communities safely and effectively. Specifically, this amendment will restore the successful FIRE and SAFER grant programs to last year's funding level of \$337.5 million each.

Independent observers have found that FIRE and SAFER work: an independent study from the U.S. Fire Administration found that grants like these are making our fire departments more prepared and better equipped to protect our communities. Cutting FIRE and SAFER makes it more difficult for our communities to recruit, train, and retain skilled firefighters. And, it makes it far more difficult for our departments to equip themselves with the up-to-date tools critical to protecting property and saving lives.

I want to make clear that I am not pleased with the offset being used to restore this funding. However, I recognize that my colleagues were left with very few options, given the cuts made to the overall bill. I am hopeful that this will be addressed in conference with the Senate.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, fund FIRE and SAFER at the Fiscal Year 2012 level, and protect these vital investments in public safety.

HONORING CAPTAIN SCOTT MCKEE

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I am humbled today to recognize Captain R. Scott McKee for his service to our country. In 1987, he enlisted in the Army as an airborne paratrooper at the age of 17 and was soon accepted into Georgia Military College, where he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1991.

After his commission as a lieutenant, he served as an operations officer and tank platoon leader with the 1st Battalion, 66th Armored Regiment at Fort Hood, Texas. While at Fort Hood, then-First Lieutenant McKee deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. In Cuba, he served as a Quick Reaction Force platoon leader in support of Operation Sea Signal, responsible for the security and safety of over 2,000 Haitian and Cuban migrants and U.S. personnel on the base.

Upon leaving active duty, Captain McKee enrolled at Texas Wesleyan School of Law, attending classes at night while working full-time. In 2008, he was elected to serve as the Henderson County District Attorney, taking office on January 1, 2009.

A year after assuming office, Captain McKee mobilized with the Army National Guard's 3rd Battalion, 256th Light Infantry Regiment for a deployment to Iraq on January 4, 2010. During his deployment to Iraq, Captain McKee served as the infantry operations officer for the battalion and planned over 1,200 combat missions throughout Iraq, participating in many of them.

While in Iraq, Captain McKee was awarded the Bronze Star for his actions and performance in a combat zone. He was also awarded the Louisiana War Cross by the Adjutant General of the State of Louisiana.

Captain McKee currently serves as the commander of Company A, 3rd Battalion, 156th Infantry Regiment, Louisiana National Guard out of Fort Polk, Louisiana. He and his wife, Ashley, have three children, Stuart, Ryan, and Ranger.

As the Member of Congress for the Fifth District of Texas in the United States House of Representatives, it is my honor to recognize Captain McKee for his service to our nation in uniform and to the citizens of Henderson County as the District Attorney.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT T. SCHILLING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Mr. SCHILLING. Mr. Speaker, on Friday June 1, 2012, I attended a family funeral and was unable to cast my votes for Roll Numbers 306 through 313. These were amendments to H.R. 5325, the fiscal year 2013 Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

Had I been present, my votes would have been as follows:

For roll No. 306, an amendment by Congressman SCALISE of Louisiana Page 3, Line 16—Transfers \$10 million from Department of Energy Salaries & Expenses to Corps of Engineers construction account. I would have voted "aye".

For roll No. 307, an amendment by Congressman KING of Iowa Page 3, Line 16—Strikes \$1 million from Fish and Wildlife and adds \$571,000 to Operations and Maintenance. I would have voted "aye".

For roll No. 308, an amendment by Congressman MORAN of Virginia, Page 12, Line 16—Strikes Sec. 110. Sec. 110 prevents the Corps of Engineers from updating guidance concerning federal jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act. I would have voted "no".

For roll No. 309, an amendment by Congressman HULTGREEN of Illinois, Page 20, Line 15—Takes \$30 million from Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy and puts \$15 million in the Office of Science. I would have voted "aye".

For roll No. 310, an amendment by Congressman CHAFFETZ of Utah, Page 20, Line 15—Reduces Advanced Manufacturing by \$74 million, to FY 2011 spending levels, and transfers this amount to the Spending Reduction Account. I would have voted "aye".

For roll No. 311, an amendment by Congressman MCCLINTOCK of California, Amendment No. 6—Reduces Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by \$1.45 billion and puts the savings in the Spending Reduction Account. I would have voted "no".

For roll No. 312, an amendment by Congresswoman KAPTUR of Ohio, Page 20, Line 15—Transfers \$10 million from the Department of Energy Administrative accounts to Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. I would have voted "no".

For roll No. 313, an amendment by Congressman TONKO of New York, Page 20, Line 15—Transfers \$180 million from National Nuclear Security Administration—Weapons Activities to Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy for Weatherization assistance and state energy programs. I would have voted "no".

For roll No. 314, an amendment by Congresswoman HAHN of California, Page 20, Line 15—Adds \$50 million to Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy offset by a \$100 million reduction in Fossil Energy Research and Development. I would have voted "no".

It is an honor to serve the people of the 17th Congressional District of Illinois.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF JEWISH AMERICANS

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today it is my honor to rise and recognize the contributions of Jewish-Americans to our nation. I commend President Barack Obama for designating May 2012 as Jewish Heritage Month. Also, I thank Congresswoman DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, my fellow Floridian, for leading the congressional effort to commemorate Jewish Heritage Month.

My relationship with the Jewish community dates back to my childhood years. It was a very different time then. While segregation and oppression were the norm, members of the Jewish community treated me and my family with love and compassion. Decades later, these guiding principles remain the same. Today, as many of my colleagues honor Jewish-Americans who have made significant contributions to our nation, I will recognize Steven Sonenreich, a leader in the healthcare industry and South Florida community.

Mr. Sonenreich has been a leader in my community for over 30 years. In addition to leading Mount Sinai Hospital, he is an advisory board member for the University of Miami School of Business's Health Administration Department and the 5,000 Role Models of Excellence Project. Furthermore, he serves on numerous other boards and committees.